Strange and wonderful News

FROM

LINCONSHIRE.

Or a Dreadful

ACCOUNT

OF

A most INHUMANE

AND

Bloody Murther,

Committed upon the Body of one Mr. *Carter*, by the contrivance of his Elder Brother, who had hired three more Villains to commit the horrid Fact, and how it was soon after found out, by the appearance of a most dreadful and terrible Ghost, sent by Almighty Providence for the Discovery.

AS ALSO

The Manner of its Appearance in several Shapes and Forms, with Fresh bleeding wounds, still pursuing the Murtherer from place to place; with the Relation how he endeavoured to Conjure it down, and of its Appearance and Declaration of the Murtherers, and of the Confession of the Murderer when Apprehended, with many other remarkable Circumstances.

This was Communicated in a Letter to a Gentleman of very good Quality in *London*, The truth of which is Attested under the hands of *George Smith*, *James Simson*, *and Gregory Wilson*, Men of good Repute and Fame, living near *Stamford*.

LONDON Printed, in the Year 1679.

Strange and wonderful News

From Lincolnshire.

WOnderful are the dictates of *Providence*, in all there effects, and Heavens justice, seldom sleeps when Crimes, like these: cry Loud, Almighty vengeance slacks not its dread Arme, but by some unexpected means pursues the Trembling offender. Ghosts and infernal shapes; whose Midnight formes, Groan out abconded horrors, are often Instrumental made, to the discoveries of Villanous Exploits, as may in this fratricid be amplified more open to the World; Mr. *Roger Carter*, near *Stamford* in *Lincolin-shire*, dying not many Months since, and leaving two Sons only (viz) *William* and *Thomas*, (his Wife being formerly deceased) and for their maintenance, a considerable competency; as well in Yearly revenue, as other goods, Chattels and Mony, devided between them equally thereby, thinking he had done discretly, to hinder all differances: that after his decease might happen, but as the Glow Worme, Light of Humane Reason, cannot see into futurity, so in this his expectation failed, for the Elder, (*viz*) *William* being by Nature of an extravagant wild temper: and following Lude Associates, was like *Cain*, Tempred to shed the Innocent *B*lood of his Younger Brother, for sure it is, that such his envy Sprung at, first from the dislike he conceived of his Vertuous proceeding, as to procure the posession of what was fallen to his Lot, upon which he laied many Plots and contrivances, to make him away, and then rather because he was but green in Years, and easly to be wrought upon, at last he prevailed with him so far as to go to the University of *Cambridge*: and there to study Divinity, this the Youth agreed to, at his more then ordinary importunity, and it was given out on all Hands, amongst the Neighbours, the better to Colour the design, the time being appointed for his departeur and things made ready, the Elder Brother had hired 3 of his Wicked accomplices, to meet them upon their Journey, in the disguise of high-way Men, by such a Wood some distance from the Town, and that they there should Murder his Brother, for which they

they were to receive Ten Pounds a piece, this they effected on *Tuesday*, the 14 of this Instant *November*, at which Bloody and Villanous design, the said *William* was not least Instrumental, for when the Ruffians had shot the Young Man of from his Horse, then he run him through, to make a sure dispatch, this being done, they bound the said *William* to make the business more likely and plausable, and then away they Rid, not long after some Gentlemen came by, who were much amazed at so strange a disaster, to whom the said *William* with a lamentable Voice told them in many dissembling Circumstances, telling them that his Brother being fore-most they were met by 6 High-way-men, desireing him to Yield to their Mercy, and not to make any resistance, but he not taking his counsel, being well Horsed, endeavoured to Ride throw them, but one of them Fireing a Pistol, shot him, and another with his Rapier Run him through, this daubing with untempered Morter; gained not only belief with the Gentlemen, but also with the whole Countery, Immediately Hew and Cry, was sent after the Murderers, and the Body decently buried, the Brother shedding many Crocadils Tears at the Funeral: the better to Blind the Eyes of Men, but Heaven whose narrow searching Eyes can never be deceived, thought fit to bring so Vile a deed to Light, and Innocent Bloud cried Loud, whereupon there was a certain rumor spread about the place, without a known Author, that there had been a dreadful Ghost seen in Mr. *Carters* Yard, the which he strove to Stifle, by threatning the reporters of it, but it proved a Sceen to true, for by the Divine permission, an Airey form assumed the shape of his departed Brother, with fresh bleeding Wounds, the which appeared not only to him in dreadful wise; but at last to one of the Servants, upon this a suddain change was observed in him, and a deep Melancholly over-spread, no doubt stirred up by inward Guilt; and powerful Conscience: sing at last the Spirit or Airy form Grew so importunat (seeing the Servants had strict charge not to reveal to any of the Neighbours any such disturbance) that for two or three Nights together, there was heard most dreadful Groanings, and Laments: and such a Lumbering Noise, as if the stools and Chairs; and all the other House-hold Goods were Tumbling out of doors: the Hogs and Horses often making an unusial Noise, so that it was heard by several of the Neighbours, upon which the Rumor spread fresh, whereupon he thought convenient to remove to another House, some distance from that being, the which still raised suspicion in some Jealous Neighbours, all this while the Servants remaining faithful to their Master, would by no means disclose what they had seen, but makeing slight, when they were asked concerning any such Intreague, but this

removal

removal nothing did avail, for still the dreadful Ghost persued, and often changed it self into more fearful formes, as a Bear, a Lion, and the like with Gastly countenance, and horrid Eyes, oft sparkling fire, sometimes shril shreaks, and sometimes Hollow Groans were heard, this he at last Imparted to Friend of his (but not the cause of its appearance) who advised him to get it Conjured down, amongst the Neighbours still reports went doubtful, some said Old Mr. *Carter* had hid monys, and that being not as yet discovered, was the cause his restless Soul could find no fixed aboad, but the Murtherer himself, knew a more dreadful cause, for its appearance, and therefore took his Friends, advice to lay it, if twere possible, upon which a Man was sent for that pretended to Astrology, and all things for the dreadful Intreague were prepared, and Midnight silence the Hour for its appearance being come, first a Small Noise was heard and next, the Room wherein they were did seem to shake, when loe the Image of the murthered Youth appeared on Horse-Back, just as he was slain, which sight so amazed the Conjurer, that notwithstanding his Magnanimous art, he did begin to fly the Room, when as the Spirit bid him not to fear, though it was not in his power to lay him, till his blood (in part shed by his Brothers hand, and part by three more: whom he Hired, Nameing them distinctly) was by Justice answered for, whereupon shewing his Wounds he vanished, upon this the murderer was apprehended, and before a Majestrate confessed the whole enterprize, as before recited, and thereupon was committed to the County Goal, to attend his Tryal, the other three being fled upon the discovery, and are not to be found, this attested under the Hands of *George Smith*, *James Simson*, and *Gregory Wilson*, Men of good repute and Fame, living near the place aforesaid, *&c.*

By this we may see and admire the power and Justice of an Almighty God who alone is dreadful, and to be feared among all the Nations upon Earth.

FINIS.